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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" *(a)* & *(b)* The travelling allowance claims of the six teachers in question for having attended the election instruction classes, said to have been preferred to the District Educational Officer, Tellicherry, were not received either by him or by the Tahsildar, Chirakkal. The Tahsildar, Chirakkal has, therefore, now obtained fresh claims from these teachers and settled them."

Harijan representation in the Madras Electricity System.

* 730 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the percentage of Harijan workers both skilled and unskilled in the Madras Electricity System, in the Power Works, Basin Bridge and in the office at Mount Road?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Thirty per cent in the Generation Branch and nine per cent in the Distribution Branch of the Madras Electricity System."

Fall in the collection of sales tax in the City of Madras.

* 731 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any fall in the collection of sale tax in the City of Madras in the year 1953 and if so, to what extent?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes. The amount of sales tax collected in the City of Madras in the financial year 1953–54 up to the end of February 1954 is Rs. 266·34 lakhs. The amount collected in the corresponding period of 1952–53 was 291·58 lakhs."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" இந்த பிரஸ்தாப 1953-ம் ஆண்டில் விற்பனை வரி மிக மிகக் குறைவாக வசூலாகியிருப்பதிலிருந்தே வியாபாரிகள் அதிகமாக பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது தெரிகிறது. ஆகவே பல பல நாட்களாக விற்பனை வரி விஷயமாக வியாபாரிகளால் வற்புறுத்தப்பட்டு வரும் கோரிக்கைகளையும், வேண்டுகோள்களையும் இந்த அரசாங்கம் இப்பொழுதாவது கவனிக்குமா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I do not exactly understand the question of the hon. Member. This is due to the state of trade."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know the reasons for the decline in the sales tax collected in the year 1953? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Various factors like depression in trade and lack of purchasing capacity of the people have contributed to the decline in sales tax collection."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" மக்களது வாங்கும் சக்தி மிகவும் குறைந்திருப்பதால் விற்பனை வரி வசூலும் மிகக் குறைந்திருக்கிறதென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அதை உத்தேசித்தாவது விற்பனை வரியை ஒரு முனை வரியாக செய்ய சர்க்கார் உத்தேசிக்குமா ? "

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The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I have answered that point so many times. I do not know why the hon. Member puts the same question again. I will say, ' Let him wait for some time and it will be considered '."

Skkipo van to provide medical relief for the villages in North Malabar.

* 732 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to send any Skkipo van to provide medical relief to the people suffering from various diseases in the disease-ridden villages in North Malabar?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" As there are no facilities for medical treatment and as there are very few hospitals in the villages in Malabar, will the Government consider this question? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government have provided in this year's Budget for the establishment of a mobile medical unit to be attached to the Taluk Headquarters Hospital in Tellicherry which is in North Malabar."

Sri KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" In view of the fact that many villages in Walluvanad and Ernad taluks are very badly in need of medical aid and in view of the fact that the working of the Skkipo van at Ottapalam is confined to a very few villages around Ottapalam which are already served by the Ottapalam and Pappinisseri dispensaries, will the Government consider the desirability of taking necessary steps to extend the service and working of the Skkipo van at Ottapalam to the villages in Pattambi firka and the adjoining villages in Mangada firka and also the villages in Ernad taluk? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Skkipo van, so far as I know, is working in nine centres. It is not possible to extend the use of this van to a much wider area."

Road works to be financed out of the Central Road Fund.

* 733 *Q.*—Sri K. VENKATRAMANA GOWDA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have furnished a list of works to be financed out of the State allocations of the Central Road Fund; and

(*b*) if so, what are the works, for South Kanara, included in the list and their estimated total cost?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) This Government prepares and sends up once in two or three years, lists of works to the financed from this Government's share of the Central Road Fund expected